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## Noncentrosymmetric Chalcohalide NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl with Large Band Gap and IR NLO Response

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By introducing the highly-electronegative halide anion into chalcogenides, one novel chalcohalide, NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl, has been synthesized by conventional high temperature solid–state method. It crystallizes in a new structure type of space group  $P6_3$  with a = 9.7653(2) Å, c = 12.0581(3) Å and Z = 2. The fundamental unit is the unique [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring comprised of three GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra via sharing corner S atoms. The [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings are arranged to form pseudo layers, which are stacked through Na-Cl-Ba chains to build up the structure. The macroscopic packing of these [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings provides the material moderate NLO response at 2090 nm fundamental light. Furthermore, UV-vis-IR spectroscopy shows that NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl has a very large band gap of 3.49 eV, which is very beneficial to increase the laser damage threshold and avoid the two-photon absorption problem of the conventional near IR laser pumping sources.

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### Introduction

Mid-far IR lasers have important civil and military applications. So far, the nonlinear optical (NLO) method is an important way to generate mid-far IR lasers.<sup>1, 2</sup> For decades, the AgGaQ<sub>2</sub> (Q = S, Se)<sup>3,4</sup> and ZnGeP<sub>2</sub><sup>5</sup> crystals have been the benchmark IR NLO materials. These chalcopyrite type crystals possess advantages including large NLO coefficients<sup>6,7</sup> and wide transparent regions.<sup>4-6</sup> However, they have serious drawbacks in properties. For example, AgGaQ<sub>2</sub> has low laser damage threshold and AgGaSe<sub>2</sub> is non-phase matchable at 1  $\mu$ m, while ZnGeP<sub>2</sub> exhibits strong two-photon absorption (TPA) of the conventional 1  $\mu$ m or 1.55  $\mu$ m pumping laser.<sup>8</sup>

The search for new IR NLO crystals with better overall properties is very active nowadays.<sup>9-19</sup> Among the requirements for a good IR NLO material, increasing the laser damage threshold and avoiding TPA of the conventional near IR pumping sources may be the two most demanding ones. An effective way to achieve these goals is to enlarge the band gap by incorporating alkali or alkaline-earth metal. This structural design strategy has led to discovery of several wide-gap alkali metal- or alkaline-earth metal-containing chalcogenide IR NLO materials, including the LiMQ<sub>2</sub> (M = Ga, In; Q = S, Se)<sup>20-22</sup> BaGa<sub>4</sub>Q<sub>7</sub>,<sup>23-25</sup> Li<sub>2</sub>Ga<sub>2</sub>GeS<sub>6</sub>,<sup>26</sup> LiGaGe<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>6</sub>,<sup>27</sup> Li<sub>2</sub>In<sub>2</sub>SiQ<sub>6</sub>,<sup>28</sup> BaGa<sub>2</sub>GeQ<sub>6</sub><sup>29</sup> materials, some of which are very promising for practical applications.

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On the other hand, some halides have also been investigated as IR NLO materials, such as CsGeX<sub>3</sub> (X = Cl, Br),<sup>30, 31</sup> SbF<sub>3</sub>,<sup>32</sup> Cs<sub>2</sub>Hg<sub>3</sub>I<sub>8</sub>,<sup>33</sup> HgBr<sub>2</sub>,<sup>34</sup> NaSb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>10</sub>.<sup>35</sup> Halide IR NLO materials usually possess very large band gaps (3.3, 4.3, 5.0 eV for HgBr<sub>2</sub>, SbF<sub>3</sub> and NaSb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>10</sub>, respectively)<sup>32,34,35</sup> and high laser damage threshold (1.3 and 0.3 GW/cm<sup>2</sup> for NaSb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>10</sub> and HgBr<sub>2</sub>, respectively),<sup>34,35</sup> but their NLO response is usually much smaller than those of chalcogenides. For example, HgBr<sub>2</sub>, exhibiting the largest second harmonic generation (SHG) effect among them, has a SHG effect only about 10 times that of KDP (d = 0.39 pm/V).<sup>34</sup> Such values are unfavorable for application. If we could combine the advantage of chalcogenides (large NLO response) with that of halides (large band gap and laser damage threshold) into one compound, we may obtain IR NLO materials with the advantages of both kinds of materials.

Actually, mixed anions compounds, including the *Ln*FeOPn (*Ln* = rare-earth; *Pn* = P, As)<sup>36-38</sup> superconductors, and the LaCuOQ<sup>39</sup> *p*-type transparent conductors, have received intensive investigation. An interesting structural feature in these compounds is that if different cations are involved, a highly electronegative element (e.g., O, F) tends to form strong ionic bonding with a highly electropositive one (e.g., alkali metal), whereas a less electronegative element (e.g., P, As, S, Se, Te) tends to form a stable covalent bonding with a less electropositive one (e.g., *p*-block element). The cooperative interactions of building units with different bonding nature and functions bring the materials fascinating properties. Thus the covalent M–Q (M = *p* block element, Q = chalcogen) framework, which is helpful to generate large NLO response, can be compatibly packed together with the ionic-bonded A–X (A = alkali or alkaline

-earth metal, X = halide) framework, which is helpful to increase the band gap.

In view of the structural stability and property, the anion-mixed chalcohalides are very promising to become a new class of IR NLO materials with desired properties. The study of IR NLO chalcohalides is very limited compared with those in chalcogenides and halides.<sup>40-44</sup> In this work, we investigated the A–Ba–M–Q–X (A = Na, K; M = Ge, Sn; Q = chalcogen; X = halide) system and found one new non-centrosymmetric compound NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl. It possesses unique [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings, moderate NLO response and a very large band gap of 3.49 eV. Such large band gap is very beneficial for increasing the laser damage threshold and avoiding the TPA problem of the conventional 1µm laser pumping sources.

### Experimental

### Single-crystal Growth

The following reagents were used as obtained: BaS (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd., 99.9%), Ge (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd., 99.9%), S (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd., 99.9%) and NaCl (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd., 99%). GeS<sub>2</sub> was synthesized by high temperature reaction of elements in sealed silica tubes evacuated to  $10^{-3}$  Pa.

A mixture of BaS,  $GeS_2$  and NaCl with molar ratio of 1:1:1 were ground and loaded into a fused-silica tube under an Ar atmosphere in a glovebox, which was sealed under  $10^{-3}$  Pa atmosphere and then placed in a computer–controlled furnace. The sample was heated to 1123 K in 20 h and kept at that temperature for 48 h, then cooled at a slow rate of 4 K/h to 673 K, and finally cooled to room temperature. The produced crystals were manually selected for structure characterization. Analyses of the crystals with an EDX–equipped Hitachi S–4800 SEM showed the presence of Ba:Na:Ge:S:Cl in the approximate molar ratio of 20.7:5.5:16.2:51.5:6.1.

### Solid-state Synthesis

Polycrystalline sample of the compound was synthesized by solid–state reaction technique. A mixture of BaS, GeS<sub>2</sub> and NaCl according to the stoichiometric ratio were ground and loaded into a fused silica tube under an Ar atmosphere in a glovebox, which was sealed under  $10^{-3}$  Pa atmosphere and then placed in a computer–controlled furnace. The sample was heated to 1223 K in 20 h, kept at that temperature for 48 h, and then the furnace was turned off.

X-ray powder diffraction analysis of the powder sample was performed at room temperature in the angular range of  $2\theta = 10-70^{\circ}$  with a scan step width of 0.02° and a fixed counting time of 1 s/step using an automated Bruker D8 X-ray diffractometer equipped with a diffracted monochromator set for Cu K<sub>a</sub> ( $\lambda = 1.5418$  Å) radiation.

Figure 1 shows XRD pattern of the polycrystalline sample of  $NaBa_4Ge_3S_{10}Cl$ along with the calculated one on the basis of the single crystal data. The pattern of the sample is in good agreement with the calculated one. In addition, efforts to synthesize analogues with other IA and IVA elements in the form of either single crystals or polycrystalline samples were unsuccessful.

### **Structure Determination**

Single–crystal X–ray diffraction data was collected with the use of graphite–monochromatized Mo K<sub> $\alpha$ </sub> ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) at 293 K on a Rigaku AFC10 diffractometer equipped with a Saturn CCD detector. The collection of the intensity data, cell refinement and data reduction were carried out with the use of the program Crystalclear.<sup>45</sup> Face–indexed absorption corrections were performed numerically with the use of the program XPREP.<sup>46</sup>

The structure was solved with the direct methods program SHELXS and refined with the least–squares program SHELXL of the SHELXTL.PC suite of programs.<sup>46</sup> In the situation that elements next to each other in the periodic table are involved, the assignments of atoms are based on the bonding characteristics and bond valence sums calculations. Considering the bonding characteristics in mixed anion/mixed cation compounds, in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl, all anions connected to the Ge atoms are assigned as S atoms and those connected to Na and Ba only are assigned as Cl atoms. The final refinement included anisotropic displacement parameters and a secondary extinction correction. The program STRUCTURE TIDY<sup>47</sup> was then employed to standardize the atomic coordinates. Additional experimental details are given in Table 1 and selected metrical data are given in Table 2. Further information may be found in Supporting

Information.

### **Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy**

A Cary 5000 UV–vis–NIR spectrophotometer with a diffuse reflectance accessory was used to measure the spectrum of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl in the range of 300 nm (4.13 eV) to 2100 nm (0.59 eV).

### **SHG Measurements**

The optical SHG response of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl was measured by means of the Kurtz–Perry method.<sup>48</sup> The fundamental light is the 2090 nm light generated with a Q–switched Ho:Tm:Cr:YAG laser. The particle size of the sample is  $80–100\mu$ m. Microcrystalline AgGaS<sub>2</sub> of similar particle size served as a reference.

### **First-principles Calculations**

The first-principles calculations at the atomic level for the NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl crystal, including the band structure, total/partial density of states (DOS/PDOS) and optical properties (SHG effect), are performed by the plane-wave pseudopotential method<sup>49</sup> implemented in the CASTEP<sup>50</sup> program based on density functional theory (DFT).<sup>51</sup> The ion-electron interactions are modeled by the optimized norm-conserving pseudopotentials<sup>52</sup> of the Kleinman-Bylander form<sup>53</sup> for all constituent elements. In this model, Na  $2s^22p^63s$ , Ba  $5s^25p^66s^2$ , Ge  $4s^24p^2$ , S  $3s^23p^4$ , and Cl  $3s^23p^5$  electrons are treated as the valence electrons, respectively. The kinetic energy cutoff of 900 eV and Monkhorst-Pack *k*-point meshes<sup>54</sup> spanning less than  $0.04/Å^3$  in the Brillouin zone are chosen to ensure the present purposes to be sufficiently accurate.

### **Result and discussion**

### **Crystal Structure**

NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl crystallizes in a novel structure type of space group  $P6_3$  of hexagonal system. The asymmetric unit contains two crystallographically independent Ba atoms, one independent Na atom, one independent Ge atom, four independent S atoms and one independent Cl atom. Na and Cl atoms are at Wyckoff sites 2*a*, Ba2 and S4 atoms are at Wyckoff sites 2*b*, while others are all at general position 6*c*. Considering no metal–metal bond and S–S bond in the structure, the oxidation states of 1+, 2+, 4+, 2– and 1– can be attributed to Na, Ba, Ge, S and Cl, respectively.

As shown in Figure 2, in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl, each Ge atom is connected by four S atoms in distorted tetrahedral geometry and three such GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra are further linked by sharing corner S atoms to generate the isolated [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring. It is interesting to note the space group  $P6_3$  of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl is both chiral and polar. The polarity is demonstrated in the connectivity of a single [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring as the three Ge–S2 bonds are all pointed to almost the same direction parallel to the *c* axis. However, the two [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings in a unit cell are related by the  $6_3$  screw axis along the *c* axis. As a result, the Ge–S1 and Ge–S3 bonds between the two [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings are rotated by about 60°, demonstrating the chirality of the structure (Figure 2). For the macroscopic packing of these [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings, they are arranged in the same orientation to form a pseudo-layer parallel to the *ab* plane, in which each Na atom is linked by three [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings and each [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring is also linked by three Na atoms (Figure 3A). For two adjacent such pseudo layers, the orientations of the [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings are rotated by 60°. As shown in Figure 3B, Cl atoms are linked by three Ba1 atoms and two Na atoms to generate a bicapped triangular pyramid, which is further linked by sharing Na atoms to form a one-dimensional chain. The pseudo layers of [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings are stacked through the one-dimensional chains to build up the structure with other Ba2 and S4 atoms occupying the interspaces.

Figures 4A and 4B illustrate the coordination environment of all cations. Ge atoms are coordinated to four S atoms to form tetrahedra with Ge–S distances from 2.149(4) to 2.265(3) Å, which are usual in BaGa<sub>2</sub>GeS<sub>6</sub> (2.212(1) to 2.239(1) Å)<sup>29</sup> and LiIn<sub>2</sub>GeS<sub>6</sub> (2.180(1) to 2.197(1) Å).<sup>28</sup> 5–fold Na atom is connected with three S atoms and two Cl atoms to generate trigonal bipyramid with two Cl atoms as apex. The Na–S bond length is 2.820(3) Å, comparable to those in LiNaAs<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (2.740(1) to 2.941(1) Å)<sup>10</sup> and NaMo<sub>6</sub>S<sub>8</sub> (2.608(1) to 3.150(1) Å),<sup>55</sup> and Na–Cl bond lengths change from 3.004(17) to 3.025(17) Å, a little longer than those of Na<sub>2</sub>Ti<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub> (2.791(1) to 2.879(1) Å)<sup>56</sup> and NaCl (2.829(1) Å).<sup>57</sup> Ba1 atom is coordinated to seven S atoms and one Cl atoms to generate distorted rectangular prism while Ba2 atom is linked by

seven S atoms to form mono-capped trigonal prism. Ba–S bond lengths range from 2.991(2) to 3.561(4) Å, resembling those of Ba<sub>2</sub>AgInS<sub>4</sub> (3.128(2) to 3.314(2) Å)<sup>58</sup> and Ba<sub>3</sub>PrInS<sub>6</sub> (3.171(1) to 3.335(1) Å),<sup>59</sup> and Ba–Cl distance is 2.994(1) Å, a bit shorter than those in Ba<sub>8</sub>Eu<sub>7</sub>Cl<sub>34</sub> (3.090(1) to 3.563(1) Å)<sup>60</sup> and Ba<sub>2</sub>GdCl<sub>7</sub> (3.091(1) to 3.328(1) Å).<sup>61</sup>

The [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring is also seen in the structure of EuGeS<sub>3</sub>,<sup>62</sup> but EuGeS<sub>3</sub> crystallizes in the centrosymmetric space group  $P\overline{1}$  and the two [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings in a unit cell are related via an inversion center. In comparison, NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl crystallizes in the non-centrosymmetric polar  $P6_3$  space group and the two [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings in a unit cell are not related via an inversion center but the 6<sub>3</sub> screw axis. In addition, the GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra have also exhibited other kinds of connectivity in other compounds. For example, in Tl<sub>4</sub>GeS<sub>4</sub><sup>63</sup> and LaCa<sub>2</sub>GeS<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>,<sup>40</sup> the GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra are isolated from each other; in Rb<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub><sup>64</sup> and RbTaGeS<sub>5</sub>,<sup>65</sup> two GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra form [Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>6</sub>] anionic groups by sharing edge; while the structural motif of Na<sub>6</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>7</sub><sup>66</sup> is [Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>7</sub>] anion also built from two GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra are connected by sharing corner S atoms to form [Ge<sub>4</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] anion groups in Na<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub><sup>67</sup> and K<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub><sup>64</sup> and the GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra are linked by sharing corner S atoms to generate one-dimensional chains in Na<sub>2</sub>GeS<sub>3</sub><sup>.68</sup>

### SHG measurement

The SHG signal intensity of NaBa4Ge3S10Cl with the 2090 nm laser as fundamental wavelength was about one third of that of AgGaS<sub>2</sub> with similar particle size. According to anionic group theory,<sup>69-71</sup> which is very successful in explaining the NLO properties of materials, the macroscopic SHG effect is the summation of microscopic anion groups. If the anion groups are arranged parallelly, the SHG response will be strong. As discussed in the structure part, the basic microscopic NLO-active functional units, i.e. the GeS<sub>4</sub> tetrahedra, are connected via corner-sharing to generate  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings, which are then joined by Na cation to form pseudo layers. The polarity and chirality of the structure have significant influence on the packing of the [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings: In a single pseudo layer, the [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] rings are aligned in almost the same direction and should be beneficial to generate strong NLO response. However, two adjacent such pseudo layers are related by the  $6_3$  screw axis, the orientations of the  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings are rotated by  $60^\circ$  and only the polar arrangement of the Ge-S2 bonds is maintained, which reduces the overall macroscopic NLO properties. A similar structural feature was observed in the K<sub>2</sub>Al<sub>2</sub>B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>72, 73</sup> borates. As a result, NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl provides moderate NLO response, i.e., one third of AgGaS<sub>2</sub>. Considering the large NLO coefficient of AgGaS<sub>2</sub> ( $d_{36} = 14.1 \text{ pm/V}$ ), although such NLO response of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl is not very large in chalcogenide NLO materials, it is still larger than those of most oxides and halides, such as  $\beta$ -BaB<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> ( $d_{22}(1064 \text{nm}) =$ 2.2 pm/V),<sup>74</sup> LiB<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ( $d_{32}(1064$ nm) = 0.85 pm/V),<sup>75</sup> CsGeCl<sub>3</sub> ( $d_{15}(cal.) = 1.1$  pm/V)<sup>16</sup> and NaSb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>10</sub>  $(d_{33}(cal.) = -0.83 \text{ pm/V})$ .<sup>16</sup>

Figure 5 shows the diffuse reflectance spectrum of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl. The absorption edge of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl is 355 nm, and consequently the band gap of 3.49 eV is deduced by the straightforward extrapolation method.<sup>76</sup> This value is much larger than those of most chalcogenide IR NLO materials (2.8, 1.8 eV for AgGaS<sub>2</sub> and AgGaSe<sub>2</sub>)<sup>7</sup> and comparable to those of halide (3.1, 3.3 eV for CsGeCl<sub>3</sub>, HgBr<sub>2</sub>),<sup>30,34</sup> which clearly demonstrates that the incorporation of the halide ion into chalcogenides can effectively increase the band gap. Such phenomena may be explained via the "dimensional reduction" concept also exhibiting in other series of compounds:<sup>77-82</sup> A large band gap may help to increase the laser damage threshold of the material and avoid the TPA problem of the conventional near IR laser pumping sources (Nd: YAG 1064nm laser, for example).

### **First-Principles Calculation**

The electronic band structure of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl calculated by local density approximation  $(LDA)^{83}$  method in the unit cell is plotted along the symmetry lines in Figure 6A. The corresponding PDOS is displayed in Figure 6B. It is clear that the energy region below –10 eV is mainly composed of the isolated inner orbitals of Na (2s) (2p), Ba (5s) (5p), S (3s) and Cl (3s), which are strongly localized deep in the valence band (VB) and have a negligible influence on the IR optical properties.<sup>84</sup> The top of the VB is mainly occupied by the *p* orbitals of Ge (3p), S (3p) and Cl (3p), and

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the bottom of conduction band (CB) is mainly contributed by the orbitals of Ge and  $S.^{85}$  Based on the electronic structure, the introduction of Cl atoms may facilitate the formation of isolated [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] group, which enlarges the band gap indirectly according to concept of "dimensional reduction".

Although the LDA method is suitable to describe the band structures and optical properties for most of NLO crystals according to the previous studies,<sup>86</sup> the energy band gap (~3.58 eV) for NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl calculated by PBE0<sup>87</sup> (a senior exchange-correlation functional beyond LDA) is much better than that (~1.65 eV) by LDA, which is in a good agreement with the experiments (~3.49 eV). Accordingly, scissors-corrected LDA method is adopted to obtain the SHG<sup>88</sup> coefficients and further powder SHG (PSGH)<sup>48</sup> effect in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl and AgGaS<sub>2</sub> (as a comparison), which agree with the experimental measurements very well as listed in Table 3. Because the NLO response in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl and AgGaS<sub>2</sub> is determined by the  $[Ge_3S_9]$  and  $[GaS_4]$  anionic units respectively, their own SHG effect is approximately proportional with the density of  $[Ge_3S_9]$  or  $[GaS_4]$  in the unit cell, which may be roughly represented via the ratio of number of units in a unit cell/ cell volume,<sup>89</sup> i.e., the ratio between the SHG effect of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl and AgGaS<sub>2</sub> approximately equal  $\frac{6/995.82}{4/341.02} \approx \frac{1}{2}$ . However, the arrangement of [GeS<sub>4</sub>] in [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] ring is not totally parallel as the [GaS<sub>4</sub>] case in AgGaS<sub>2</sub>, thus, the SHG effect in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl decrease and the ratio between the SHG effect of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl and AgGaS<sub>2</sub> is actually down to about 1/3.

### Conclusions

NLO chalcohalide, NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl, has new IR been obtained. Α NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl belongs to space group  $P6_3$  and adopts a new structure type with the interesting  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings as the main structural units. The  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings are related via the 6<sub>3</sub> screw axis and linked by Na atoms to generate two-dimensional pseudo layers parallel to the *ab* plane. Although the  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings are parallelly aligned and should be beneficial to generate strong NLO response in a single pseudo layer, the orientations of the  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings are rotated by  $60^\circ$  for two adjacent such pseudo layers and hence reduce the overall NLO properties. In addition the packing density of these rings is smaller than that in  $AgGaS_2$ . As a result,  $NaBa_4Ge_3S_{10}Cl$  demonstrates only moderate NLO response about 1/3 that of AgGaS<sub>2</sub>, but the value is still larger than most halides. If the macroscopic packing of the  $[Ge_3S_9]$  rings or other similar NLO-active units could be optimized with higher density and parallel orientations in other chalcohalides, a much larger NLO response could be expected. Moreover, NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl possesses large band gap of 3.49 eV, comparable to those of many NLO halides. Such large band gap may help to increase the laser damage threshold of the material and avoid the TPA problem of the conventional Nd: YAG 1064 nm laser. Considering these two aspects, although NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl is still not "perfect", it already demonstrates that the chalcohalide can improve the property of halide NLO material by increasing their NLO response and that of chalcogenide NLO by increasing their band gap. Thus chalcohalides may provide a new design strategy for

IR NLO materials.by combining the large NLO response advantage of chalcogenide with large band gap advantage of halide.

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Figure 1 Experimental (red) and simulated (black) x-ray powder diffraction data of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl

Figure 2 Crystal structure of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl viewed down [110] direction

Figure 3 The [Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>9</sub>] pseudo-layer (A) and the chain structure (B) in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl

Figure 4 The coordination environments of cations in NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl

Figure 5 Diffuse reflectance spectrum of NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl

Figure 6 Band structure PDOS projected on all atoms (A) and DOS (B) in  $NaBa_4Ge_3S_{10}Cl$ 

	NaBa <sub>4</sub> Ge <sub>3</sub> S <sub>10</sub> Cl
Fw	1146.17
a(Å)	9.7653(2)
c(Å)	12.0581(3)
Space group	<i>P</i> 6 <sub>3</sub>
$V(Å^3)$	995.82(6)
Ζ	2
<i>T</i> (K)	293(2)
λ (Å)	0.71073
$\rho_c(g/cm^3)$	3.823
$\mu(\mathrm{cm}^{-1})$	13.427
$R(F)^{a}$	0.0424
$R_{\rm W}(F_{\rm o}^2)^{b}$	0.1245
Flack parameter	0.06(4)

Table 1 Crystal data and structure refinements for  $NaBa_4Ge_3S_{10}Cl$ 

 ${}^{a}R(F) = \sum \left| \left| F_{o} \Box - \Box F_{c} \right| \right| / \sum \left| F_{o} \Box \text{ for } F_{o}^{2} > 2\sigma(F_{o}^{2}).$ 

 ${}^{b}R_{w}(F_{o}^{2}) = \{\sum [w(F_{o}^{2}-F_{c}^{2})^{2}] / \sum wF_{o}^{4}\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ for all data. } w^{-1} = \sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (zP)^{2}, \text{ where } P = \sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (zP)^{2}, \text{ where } P$ 

 $(Max(F_o^2, 0) + 2 F_c^2)/3.$ 

Ba1–S4	2.991 (2)	Ba2–S2×3	3.146 (3)
Ba1–Cl1	2.994 (1)	Ba2–S3×3	3.182 (3)
Ba1–S3	3.204 (4)	Na-S3×3	2.820 (3)
Ba1–S2	3.346 (3)	Na-Cl1	3.004 (17)
Ba1–S1	3.380 (4)	Na-Cl1	3.025 (17)
Ba1–S2	3.474 (4)	Ge–S2	2.149 (4)
Ba1–S3	3.550 (4)	Ge-S3	2.171 (3)
Ba1–S2	3.561 (4)	Ge-S1	2.259 (3)
Ba2–S4	3.084 (7)	Ge–S1	2.265 (3)

Table 2 Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for NaBa<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>S<sub>10</sub>Cl

Table 3 The calculated SHG/PSHG results of  $NaBa_4Ge_3S_{10}Cl$  and  $AgGaS_2$  (as a

comparison)

	Cal. by scissors-corrected LDA (pm/V)		
	SHG	PSHG	
NaBa <sub>4</sub> Ge <sub>3</sub> S <sub>10</sub> Cl	$d_{15} = d_{24} = -2.72;  d_{33} = 6.81$	3.44	
AgGaS <sub>2</sub>	$d_{36} = 14.1^{90}$	11.92	

Figure 1



















Figure 6



### **Table of Contents Entry**

Large band gap and moderate NLO response was found in a new IR NLO chalcohalide, NaBa4Ge\_3S\_{10}Cl.

